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SIPDIS

STATE FOR INL/AAE (BUHLER), G/TIP, SCA/CEN (O'MARA)

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SNAR SOCI KCRM KZ

SUBJECT: CORRUPT POLICE OFFICIAL CONVICTED FOR PROTECTING A
PROSTITUTION RING.

REF: 07 ASTANA 3182

¶1. On February 12, the Almaty regional court sentenced Captain Igor Morozov, the former head of the anti-trafficking in persons unit of the Ministry of Interior (MVD), and Olga Kodonidi, the infamous madam he protected.

¶2. Captain Igor Morozov was convicted of abuse of professional functions and falsification of evidence and was sentenced to 6.5 years in prison. Olga Kodonidi was found guilty of charges related to the operation of brothels and was sentenced to 6 years in prison.

¶3. In March 2007, a local newspaper began an investigation and published a series of articles about Captain Morozov, who was on the payroll of Kodonidi, one of the most successful madams in Almaty. Kodonidi, also known as Mama Roza, had an estimated net worth of five million dollars and a monthly income of \$60,000. She employed approximately 100 prostitutes between the ages of 18 and 25 from Central Asia, Russia, and Azerbaijan. Captain Morozov was paid thousands of dollars a month to protect Mama Roza and her enterprises (Reftel).

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